

REMARKS

1. Introduction

In the Office Action mailed May 20, 2004, the Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 9-13, and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Allan, U.S. Patent No. 6,584,096 (“Allan”) in view of Neves et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,691,227. The Examiner objected to claims 6-8 and 14 as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but indicated that these claims contained allowable subject matter.

Applicants have canceled claims 6 and 14 and have amended claims 1-3, 7, 8, 10-13, and 15. Applicants have also added new claims 16-21.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claims, as amended herein, for the reasons set forth below.

2. Response to Rejections

a. Claims 1-12

Of these claims, the Examiner rejected claims 1-5 and 9-12 as being unpatentable over Allan in view of Neves. However, the Examiner indicated that claims 6-8 contain allowable subject matter.

Applicants have now canceled claim 6 and amended claim 1 to recite the step of assigning a first range of globally unique port numbers to the first mobile node. Claim 6, which the Examiner indicated contained allowable subject matter, recited that the “at least one globally unique port number consists of a first range of contiguous port numbers.”

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, as amended, is clearly allowable. Applicants further submit that claims 2-5 and 7-12 are also allowable as depending from an allowable claim.

b. Claims 13-21

Of these claims, the Examiner rejected claims 13 and 15 as being unpatentable over Allan in view of Neves. However, the Examiner indicated that claim 14 contained allowable subject matter.

Applicants have now canceled claim 14 and amended claim 13 to make clear that the first and second mobile nodes have the same network address and that the first and second sets of globally unique port numbers for the first and second mobile nodes are disjoint. Claim 14, which the Examiner indicated contained allowable subject matter, specified that the first and second network addresses for the first and second mobile nodes are the same and that the first and set of globally unique port numbers for the first and second mobile nodes are disjoint.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 13, as amended, is clearly allowable. Applicants further submit that amended claim 15 and new claims 16-21 are allowable as depending from an allowable claim.

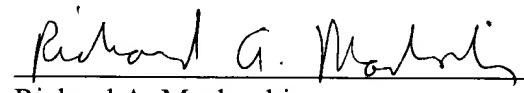
3. **Conclusion**

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is hereby requested. Should the Examiner feel that further dialog would advance the subject application to issuance, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at any time at (312) 913-0001.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 19, 2004

By:


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